

**Abstract**

The invention relates to a process for preparing haloalkanes by reaction of alcohol with 5 hydrogen halide, wherein the reaction of the alcohol with the hydrogen halide occurs in the presence of an ionic liquid at a temperature which is above 100°C for at least part of the time and, at least at the time of the commencement of the reaction, the water content is not more than 25 mol% based on the amount of liquid, where the ionic liquid is not octyltrimethylammonium chloride.